THEETHIC



Spring 2002

Pugsley Retires

Bill Pugsley, Assistant Chief of the Environmental Health Division's Pollution Prevention Section, retired from the Lincoln–Lancaster County Health Department on November 21, 2001.



Bill first joined the LLCHD in 1962. He then served at the federal, state, and local levels of environmental health in many capacities. Bill worked in Missouri for a number of years before returning to Lincoln in 1984. Bill noted, "I always wanted to work here and finish my career in Lincoln in the Health Department."

Bill oversaw the Household Hazardous Waste, Special Waste, and Hazardous Material Response programs. He often dedicated hours in investigation and response to a wide range of environmental problems ranging from cleaning up gasoline spills to decommissioning Methamphetamine labs. Bill brought to every task a dedication to public service and safety and integrity.



Bill will spend his retirement in Iowa pursuing his hobbies of model railroading and fishing. He also reported that he is looking forward to spending more time with his family.

He set a high standard of hard work and dedication and served as an outstanding example for the staff at LLCHD and will be missed.



The P 2 Corner

Where P2 Counts

There is a well-known law of management that states, "What gets measured gets done." That rule applies in all aspects of a business. Measuring a process tells workers that the process is important. It tells management what is happening in that

process. It gives owners a clear picture of the health of their businesses.



Measurement also allows owners and managers to make good decisions about where to reduce waste. The quality of the waste reduction decisions is only as good as the information gained from measurement. The quality of the

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Nancy Clark Hired

Nancy Clark, REHS, was recently hired as Assitant Chief to replace Bill Pugsley. Nancy has over 20 years experience in Environmental Health. There will be a profile of Nancy in the next issue of *The Ethic*.

Bill Pugsley's shirt is "retired" as he is inducted as the first member of the EH Hall of Fame.



CONDITIONALLY EXEMPT SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR COLLECTION SUCCESSFUL

RON ERIKSEN, ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER II

The LLCHD conducted what we hope is the first of many Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG)



collections at state fair park on Friday, November 2, 2001. Fifteen businesses participated and brought hazardous wastes to the collection. We collected:

- ☑ 1096 lbs of paint related materials (small containers and pails)
- ✓ 5247 lbs of paint related materials (large containers and drums)
- ☑ 543 lbs of hazardous waste



- ☑ 758 lbs of flammable liquids
- ☑ 108 lbs of corrosive bases
- ✓ 27 lbs of corrosive acids
- \square 324 lbs of pcbs
- ✓ 117 lbs of light bulbs
- \square 25 lbs of mercury

MSE Environmental inventoried and packaged the waste for hauling and eventual disposal. Businesses



were charged on a per pound basis.

I have received a few calls from businesses that participated in this event. They all felt that this was a good idea and

Businesses For Environmental Leadership Moves Forward

BETH MANN, GRANT COORDINATOR II

Businesses For Environmental Leadership (BFEL) is creating a unique opportunity for area businesses to understand and comply with environmental



regulations and improve their business performance. One goal of BFEL is to promote environmental excellence. The business leaders in this program realize that doing that also promotes good business practices and, often, improves a company's bottom line.

BFEL is a voluntary program that encourages businesses to make a commitment to become leaders in protecting and improving the environment for future generations. In addition, this program is creating a system of recognition that rewards community businesses that go beyond compliance. Businesses in Lincoln and Lancaster County that become members of BFEL make a commitment to adopt environmentally responsible business behaviors including implementing energy- and water-conservation and pollution prevention practices, buying and using less toxic products, and engaging in proper waste management techniques.

The business community is providing the leadership and the Lincoln–Lancaster County Health Department is coordinating the technical assistance work. Current Steering Committee members include:

Ken Svoboda, Chair—Rays Lawn and Home Care

Steve Hatten, Vice Chair—Paragon Sanitation

Randy Baldwin—Baldwin's Automotive

Nadine Condello—Home Bldrs Assoc. of Lincoln

Dan Davison—Quik T's

Joe Delgado—TCW Construction

Elaine Gilmore—Ag Equipment and Sales

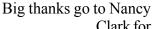
Rod Magnuson—Magnuson Painting

Sue Kliment—Jim DeFreece Auto

CESQG COLLECTION

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should be continued in the future. We will explore this possibility, so look for announcements of any future collections.







over the logistics on the collection. Thanks to everyone for all the help and support. There were employees from LLCHD, MSE Environmental, and Doug Orman from Pfizer and Mike Hedberg from Goodyear at the event helping to unload vehicles and sort and package the waste for hauling.





WHERE P2 COUNTS

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information gained from measurement is only as good as the measurement tool.

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The answer to the question, "What is the best measurement tool?" is similar to the answer to the question, "Which is the best vehicle?" The answer depends on what job you want done. The answer also depends on personal preference in some cases.

There are many measurement tools and many consultants and government (or not-for-profit) agencies that are willing to help businesses do measurement. A



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Jerry Placzek—Williamson's Body Shop

Stephen Kuchar—Teamway

Carl Rohman—Hangers

Sue Quambusch—A to Z Printing

JR Stelzer—JR Stelzer

Mark Schneider—Lincoln Carpet Center

Craig Sparks—Custom Auto Care

Ken Westerhold—K-West Construction

Chris Boe—Husker Concrete

George Witt—George Witt Service

J. W. Ennis—Bioengineering

Tony Young—Lazlo's

The BFEL is working toward becoming self-sustaining nonprofit business organization. New businesses will be recruited into the program early in 2002.

This program is supported by a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund. For more information about the Businesses for Environmental Leadership Program contact any of the above Steering Committee Members or Beth Mann, Program Coordinator at 441-6235.



search of the internet will yield much information on this topic—some valuable and some not.

The first consideration is the business of the company doing the measurement. Waste reduction is waste reduction no matter who does it. However, a dentist's office will have very different processes and wastes than a

print shop or dry cleaner. The best measurement tool is the one that fits the processes in your business.



WHERE P2 COUNTS

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Take a look around your business. Even a walk around tour can be instructive. Don't try to make changes. Just watch what is happening and ask questions. Why is the oil that leaks from that machine being sent to the recycling barrel? Why is that machine leaking? How long has it been leaking? How much oil leaks from that machine every week?

Look at all the permits your business must obtain. How much are you paying in special permit fees to dispose of those dirty shop rags? How much does that waste tube of adhesive cost? How many items are you discarding every month that you might be able to recycle or reuse? What air emissions does your business put out?

Look at how much material goes into a product or a process. Then ask yourself if all the material actually goes into the product. For example, if you use rinse tanks to clean parts, how much cleaning solution do you need in the tank? How much of that solution evaporates before a part is put into the tank? If your business casts parts (either plastic or metal) how much material goes into making the trees—material that is trimmed off the part and discarded?

Look at what processes might no longer be needed. Are there jobs that your employees are doing that it would be more economical for you to pay someone else to do? Are there excessive resources being dedicated to jobs that no longer fit your business's main mission?

There are many more questions you can ask yourself and your employees about the work that is done in your business. Doing "business as usual" does not have to mean "doing business the same old way." Your current business as usual could be costing you time and money. The only way to know is to get onto the floor and measure. If you are measuring ways to reduce waste, your business will reduce waste. After all, what gets measured gets done.

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Please circulate this issue among your staff and coworkers.

The Ethic is published quarterly by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and is distributed to Special Waste Permit holders and other businesses in Lincoln and Lancaster County.

For more information or for P2 technical assistance, call 441-8040.